

CIA/OCI BRIEF 176-75  
14 NOVEMBRE 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP86T00698R000200040078-4

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SECRET/NFD

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BRIEF

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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 176-75.4

1. ECUADOR: THERE WAS NO MAJOR VIOLENCE DURING NOVEMBER 13 NATIONWIDE STRIKE, BUT SOME SCATTERED CONFRONTATION BETWEEN POLICE AND STUDENTS OCCURRED. THE ANTICIPATED MASS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE BY POLITICAL GROUPS AND VARIOUS LEFTIST STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS DID NOT MATERIALIZE.

SEVERAL FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS THAT A COUP HAD OCCURRED PROVED TO BE FALSE; RELATIVE CALM ~~RE~~PREVAILED THROUGHOUT ECUADOR. NO LARGE TROOP CONCENTRATIONS WERE REPORTED IN THE CITIES, ~~AND IF THERE WAS INCREASED POLICE PATROLLING, IT WAS~~ NOT NOTICEABLE.

BY LETTING THE STRIKE PROCEED WITHOUT GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE, PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ MANAGED TO AVOID A SHOWDOWN ON HIS LEADERSHIP, BUT HIS SUPPORT AMONG THE MILITARY SERVICES DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE IMPROVED. {CONFIDENTIAL} // E-2IMPDET.H

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 176.754

L. PORTUGAL: A MAJOR CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNIST-LED WORKERS APPARENTLY ENDED EARLY FRIDAY MORNING WITH THE SIGNING OF A NEW COLLECTIVE LABOR CONTRACT.4

ALTHOUGH THE TERMS OF THE NEW CONTRACT HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC, THE WORKERS WERE SUFFICIENTLY PLACATED TO END THEIR SIEGE OF SAO BENTO PALACE, WHERE PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO REMAINED A VIRTUAL PRISONER FOR TWO DAYS. THERE WAS A DANGER THAT THE CONFRONTATION WOULD DEVELOP INTO A MAJOR CHALLENGE TO THE GOVERNMENT WHEN THE DEMONSTRATING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS DEMANDED NOT ONLY A 44-PERCENT WAGE INCREASE, BUT ALSO THE RETURN OF PRO-COMMUNIST FORMER PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES.4

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DELEGATES, WHO SPENT WEDNESDAY NIGHT TRAPPED IN THE PALACE, LEFT FRIDAY AFTERNOON WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF LOCAL TROOPS. THE TROOPS REFUSED TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF THREE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS--TWO LEADING SOCIALISTS AND CONSERVATIVE FORMER AIR FORCE CHIEF GALVAO DE MELO. THE THREE REMAINED WITH AZEVEDO AFTER AN ATTEMPT TO EVACUATE THEM BY MILITARY HELICOPTER WAS FRUSTRATED BY

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THE CROWD.Y

THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IF IT AGREED TO THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' DEMANDS FOR A 44-PERCENT INCREASE IN WAGES, ESPECIALLY SINCE DETAILS OF A NEW AUSTERITY PROGRAM WERE PUBLISHED IN THE LISBON PRESS THIS WEEK. THE PROGRAM CALLS FOR INCREASED PRICES, REDUCED REAL WAGES, RATIONING OF ESSENTIAL FOODSTUFFS, AND ADJUSTMENTS IN THE EXCHANGE RATE TO PUT PORTUGAL ON THE ROAD TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY.Y

BEFORE IMPLEMENTING THESE PROVISIONS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO WEIGH VERY CAREFULLY ITS ABILITY TO WITHSTAND THE TENSION SUCH A PROGRAM IS BOUND TO CREATE AGAINST THE CHAOS THAT MIGHT RESULT IF SOMETHING IS NOT DONE TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY. {CONFIDENTIAL}

2.YUGOSLAVIA-USSR: YUGOSLAV PARTY SECRETARY FOR IDEOLOGY TODO KURTOVIC HAS PUBLICLY QUESTIONED MOSCOW'S ASSURANCES OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN YUGOSLAV INTERNAL AFFAIRS.Y

KURTOVIC, SPEAKING TO REGIME PROPAGANDISTS ON TUESDAY, EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE HISTORICAL AGREEMENTS THAT CONSTITUTE THE BASIS FOR A FRIENDLY, EQUAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH MOSCOW

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PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY  
 CONFERENCE. {CONFIDENTIAL}

3. USSR: NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER ANDREY SAKHAROV TOLD  
 WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW THURSDAY THAT HIS  
 APPLICATION TO GO TO OSLO TO COLLECT THE AWARD ON  
 DECEMBER 10 HAD BEEN DENIED ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE  
 POSSESSED STATE SECRETS. SAKHAROV, WHO WAS CUT OFF  
 FROM THE SOVIET NUCLEAR PROGRAM IN 1968, SAID HE  
 DID NOT INTEND TO RESUBMIT THE TRAVEL REQUEST SINCE  
 HE CONSIDERS THE REJECTION "INVALID." HE SAID HE  
 HOPES THE DECISION MIGHT STILL BE REVERSED, BUT  
 BELIEVES THAT IS POSSIBLE ONLY IF "INTERNATIONAL  
 OPINION" LOBBIES ON HIS BEHALF. 4

MOSCOW'S DENIAL OF SAKHAROV'S REQUEST APPEARS  
 TO BE IN LINE WITH OTHER DISCERNIBLE STEPS TOWARD  
 DOCTRINAL RETRENCHMENT AND TIGHTENED IDEOLOGICAL  
 CONTROL THAT HAS BECOME EVIDENT IN KREMLIN POLICIES  
 IN THE POST-HELSINKI AND PRE-OPSU CONGRESS PERIOD.

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THE MOVE SERVES NOTICE TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AUDIENCES THAT THE CASE OF THE DISSIDENT PHYSICIST HAS INTERNAL POLITICAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS THAT OUTWEIGH ANY DAMAGE THE ACTION MAY DO TO THE SOVIET IMAGE ABROAD.4

EVEN SO, MOSCOW'S CONTINUING ANTI-SAKHAROV PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN IS BEING GENERALLY CAST IN TERMS OF A DEFENSE OF DETENTE AGAISNT THOSE AT HOME AND ABROAD WHO, LIKE SAKHAROV AND THE NOBEL COMMITTEE, UNDERMINE THAT POLICY. DOMESTICALLY, THE DENIAL OF THE VISA IS DESIGNED TO DASH THE HOPES FOR CHANGE THAT MANY OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS SAW IN THE COMBINATION OF THE HELSINKI ACCORDS AND SAKAHROV'S NOBEL PRIZE.4

IN THIS ATMOSPHERE, THE CHANCE OF A FAVORABLE RECONSIDERATION BY THE REGIME OF SAKHAROV'S REQUEST FOR A ROUND TRIP TO OSLO IS REMOTE. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS SOME NEW FUEL FOR SPECULATION

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THAT AT THE LAST MOMENT HE MAY BE OFFERED A ONE-WAY TICKET OUT OF THE COUNTRY.Y

THE SAME DAY THAT SAKHAROV'S TRAVEL APPLICATION WAS DENIED, MOSCOW REPEATEDLY ANNOUNCED THAT LAST JANUARY IT HAD LIFTED THE CITIZENSHIP OF DISSIDENT VLADIMIR MAKSIMOV, ONCE A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF SAKHAROV, WHO LEFT THE USSR IN FEBRUARY 1974 ON A ONE-YEAR VISA. MOSCOW, WHOSE DEPARTURE CAME AT ALMOST THE SAME TIME THAT ALEKSANDR SOLZHENITSYN WAS EXPELLED, WAS NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN HOME. THE REGIME MAY HAVE WAITED UNTIL NOW TO PUBLICIZE MAKSIMOV'S FORMAL EXPULSION TO SIGNAL THAT SOME FORM OF EXPULSION IS AN ALTERNATIVE FOR SAKHAROV IF HE CONTINUES TO PRESS HIS CASE.Y

BOTH SAKHAROV AND HIS WIFE ARE EVIDENTLY STRUGGLING TO DO JUST THAT BY KEEPING THE SPOTLIGHT OF WESTERN PUBLICITY ON THEIR CAUSE. MRS. SAKHAROV, WHO RECENTLY RECEIVED SOVIET PERMISSION TO EXTEND HER

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STAY IN THE WEST THROUGH DECEMBER 20 AND WHO MAY  
TRY TO COLLECT HER HUSBAND'S AWARD IN HIS NAME,  
SHE SAID ON MONDAY THAT FOR  
THE FIRST TIME SAKHAROV FEELS PHYSICALLY THREATENED.  
SHE OFFERED NO DETAILS, BUT ADDED THAT THE QUESTION  
OF HER HUSBAND'S TRIP TO OSLO WAS A TEST OF THE  
HELSINKI AGREEMENTS AND APPEALED FOR WESTERN SUPPORT.

IN MOSCOW, MEANWHILE, SENIOR OFFICIALS  
OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ARE REPORTEDLY SOUNDING  
OUT THE CHANCES OF EXPELLING SAKHAROV FROM THE  
ACADEMY. {CONFIDENTIAL} 4

4. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: IN THE PAST WEEK, TOP CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS HAVE SOUGHT TO SCOTCH APPARENTLY WIDESPREAD RUMORS OF IMPENDING PRICE INCREASES. THE BEGINNING OF A NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN IN JANUARY PLUS EXPECTED PRICE INCREASES IN POLAND AND HUNGARY HAVE EVIDENTLY SPARKED SPECULATION AMONG CZECHOSLOVAKS THAT THE PRICES THEY PAY WILL ALSO GO UP.

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PREMIER LUBOMIR STROUGAL, SPEAKING TO THE PRAGUE RALLY ON THE OCCASION OF THE SOVIET OCTOBER REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY LAST THURSDAY, ASSURED HIS AUDIENCE THAT THE ONLY THING TO RISE AFTER NEW YEAR'S DAY WOULD BE PENSIONS. ON MONDAY, PARTY CHIEF AND PRESIDENT GUSTAV HUSAK REITERATED THE POINT, LASHING OUT AT FOREIGN PROPAGANDA AND MALICIOUS RUMORMONGERS FOR INFLUENCING "THE NAIVE TO LET THEIR IMAGINATIONS RUN RIOT." HE ANGRILY DENIED RUMORS OF PRICE HIKES FOR FOOD, MEAT, RENTS, AND GASOLINE, STATING FLATLY THAT SUCH INCREASES WERE NEITHER PLANNED NOR NEEDED.4

HAVING SOUGHT TO WIN POPULAR ACCEPTANCE THROUGH RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING AND SATISFYING CONSUMER DESIRES, HUSAK IS UNDERSTANDABLY SENSITIVE TO RUMORS OF PRICE RISES. SHORTLY AFTER HE REPLACED DUBCEK IN 1969, THE REGIME ROLLED BACK PRICES FOR A NUMBER OF BASIC CONSUMER GOODS AND HAS SINCE GENERALLY MAINTAINED STABILIZED PRICE LEVELS.4

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THE RAPID RISE IN INTERNATIONAL PRICES, HOWEVER, IS STRAINING PRAGUE'S ABILITY TO SHIELD THE CONSUMER FROM PRICE INCREASES. FROM 1973 TO 1974, FOR INSTANCE, STATE SUBSIDIES ALLOWING RETAIL PRICES TO REMAIN STABLE TRIPLED FROM 6 BILLION KCS. {CZECHOSLOVAK CROWNS} TO 18 BILLION KCS. THE REGIME'S PLAN FOR DEALING WITH INCREASED RAW MATERIAL PRICES THROUGH HARDER WORK AND IMPROVED MANAGEMENT HAS OBVIOUS LIMITS. IN ADDITION, SUBSIDIZING CONSUMER INTERESTS ALSO RESTRICTS THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR OTHER PROJECTS LIKE THE LONG-OVERDUE MODERNIZATION OF INDUSTRY.

FOR POLITICAL REASONS, HOWEVER, THE REGIME WILL PROBABLY ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT PRICE LEVEL AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE 15TH PARTY CONGRESS NEXT APRIL. IN THE MEANTIME, THERE ARE SEVERAL METHODS, SUCH AS "NEW" PRODUCTS AND REPACKAGING, TO INTRODUCE HIDDEN PRICE INCREASES. {CONFIDENTIAL}

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5. HUNGARY: THE HUNGARIAN PARTY WILL CONDUCT ITS FIRST PARTY CARD EXCHANGE SINCE 1967--AND ITS SIXTH SINCE 1945--IN LEISURELY FASHION OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS. THE PROGRAM WAS KICKED OFF BY PARTY SECRETARY ARPAD PULLAI, WHO APPARENTLY HAS PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM, AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION ON OCTOBER 23. THE EXCHANGE IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED NEXT NOVEMBER WHEN NEW CARDS ARE PRINTED.

IN HIS SPEECH, WHICH HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN PUBLISHED, PULLAI SOUGHT TO PORAY THE CARD EXCHANGE AS AN ALMOST ROUTINE AFFAIR. HE ASSERTED THAT EXCHANGE WILL NOT BE A PURGE OR "INQUISITION," AND EMPHASIZED THAT THE PARTY DOES NOT SUFFER FROM POLITICAL LAXITY OR FACTIONALISM. INSTEAD, HE SAID, THE PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO STIMULATE INCREASED ACTIVISM AND IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT.

PARTY DIRECTIVES ON THE CARD EXCHANGE ECHO THIS LOW-KEY APPROACH. CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF MEMBERS--IN-

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CLUDING MANUAL WORKERS NOT GIVEN SPECIFIC PARTY TASKS, RECENTLY ADMITTED YOUNG PEOPLE, AND OLDER AND RETIRED PERSONS--WILL BE EVALUATED LENIENTLY. ALSO TO BE JUDGED LIGHTLY WILL BE PARTY MEMBERS WHO ABSTAIN FROM RELIGIOUS PRACTICES BUT HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PERSUADE MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILY TO DO LIKEWISE."

EACH OF THE APPROXIMATELY 750,000 PARTY MEMBERS WILL BE INTERVIEWED ABOUT HIS PARTICIPATION IN PARTY WORK, WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT NEW ASSIGNMENTS, IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS, AND HIS LIFE STYLE. THE AUTHORITIES WILL ALSO ASSESS WHETHER AN INDIVIDUAL HAS "IMPROPER MATERIALISTIC TENDENCIES."

PLANS FOR A CARD EXCHANGE WERE ANNOUNCED AT THE PARTY CONGRESS LAST MARCH, AND THERE HAS BEEN SOME PUZZLEMENT AS TO WHY THE REGIME WAITED SO LONG TO MOVE FORWARD. THE REGIME MAY HAVE FELT A NECESSITY TO POSTPONE THE EXCHANGE TO AVOID A DIRECT LINK WITH TOP-LEVEL CHANGES MADE AT THE CONGRESS AND SHORTLY

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THEREAFTER. THERE IS SPECULATION  
IN BUDAPEST THAT THE EVER-CAUTIOUS HUNGARIAN LEADER-  
SHIP IS AWAITING THE RESULTS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST  
PARTY CONFERENCE AND THE SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS BEFORE  
IT CONCLUDES THE EXCHANGE. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2, IMPDET.H

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 176-75.4

1. CHINA: NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, PEKING AND NEW DELHI HAVE TOLD VERY DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE OCTOBER 20 CLASH IN WHICH FOUR INDIANS WERE KILLED ALONG A DISPUTED PORTION OF THEIR COMMON BORDER. REGARDLESS OF WHO INTRUDED ON WHOSE SIDE OF THE BOUNDARY, BOTH PARTIES HAVE CHOSEN TO TREAT THE INCIDENT IN A RELATIVELY LOW KEY FASHION AND APPARENTLY HOPE TO AVOID ANY FURTHER DETERIORATION IN THEIR ALREADY FROSTY RELATIONS. CHINA'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT, ISSUED ONLY AFTER THE INDIANS PUBLICIZED THE INCIDENT, WAS RESTRAINED AND GAVE UNUSUAL EMPHASIS TO PEKING'S EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO ALONG THE BORDER. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT INITIALLY MAY HAVE BEEN INCLINED TO SAY NOTHING ABOUT THE INCIDENT, BUT ONCE WORD OF THE CLASH AND INDIAN CASUALTIES BEGAN TO LEAK OUT, NEW DELHI PROBABLY FELT IT POLITICALLY PRUDENT TO SAY SOMETHING OFFICIALLY.

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EVER SINCE THE SINO-INDIAN WAR IN 1962, SKIRMISHES, CONFRONTATIONS, PROTESTS AND COUNTERPROTESTS HAVE OCCURRED ON THE BOUNDARY. THE LAST MAJOR CLASH-- PERHAPS THE MOST SERIOUS ONE SINCE THE WAR--ERUPTED IN 1967 WHEN FIGHTING LASTED FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS AND CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES WERE CLOSE TO 100. ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE AT THE TIME ISSUED A SERIES OF FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENTS AND EMPLOYED SOME OF THEIR STRONGEST LANGUAGE TO DENOUNCE THE INDIANS, THE TENSION TURNED OUT TO BE SHORT-LIVED. IN ALL OF THESE INSTANCES BOTH SIDES HAVE SEEMED FEARFUL OF ESCALATION INTO FULL-SCALE WAR AND HAVE SOUGHT TO KEEP THE SITUATION FROM GETTING OUT OF HAND.

EVEN THOUGH NEITHER SIDE MAY HAVE PURPOSEFULLY SET OUT TO PROVOKE THE OTHER ON OCTOBER 20, THIS SUSPICION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LINGER IN PEKING AND NEW DELHI. YEARS OF DEEP MUTUAL MISTRUST PROVIDES FERTILE SOIL FOR SUSPECTING THE WORST.

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OVER THE SHORT TERM, THE INCIDENT WILL PROBABLY ONLY HAVE A MARGINAL EFFECT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS. THERE ARE SOME SIGNS THAT THE INDIANS MAY BE INTERESTED IN BETTER RELATIONS WITH PEKING, BUT IT IS IMPROBABLE THAT THE CHINESE WILL BE FORTHCOMING FOR THE TIME BEING. PEKING IS MUCH MORE CONCERNED AT THIS POINT WITH ENCOURAGING BANGLADESH TO LOOSEN ITS TIES WITH INDIA. THE OCTOBER 20 INCIDENT ALONG THE BORDER CAN ONLY WORK TO REINFORCE THIS DORMANT DIPLOMATIC SCENE.

IN A BROADER CONTEXT THE INCIDENT RAISES OTHER QUESTIONS FOR THE CHINESE. FOR THE PAST YEAR OR SO PEKING HAS BEEN DEEPLY TROUBLED BY INDIAN MOVES TO TIGHTEN CONTROL OVER SIKKIM AND ITS ROLE IN THE DEPOSITION OF THE SIKKIMESE MONARCH. PEKING IS WORRIED THAT INDIA, EMBOLDENED BY ITS SUCCESSFUL NUCLEAR TEST IN MAY 1974 AND ITS FRIENDLY TIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION, MAY BE INTERESTED IN A BROADER READJUSTMENT OF THE STATUS QUO IN THE

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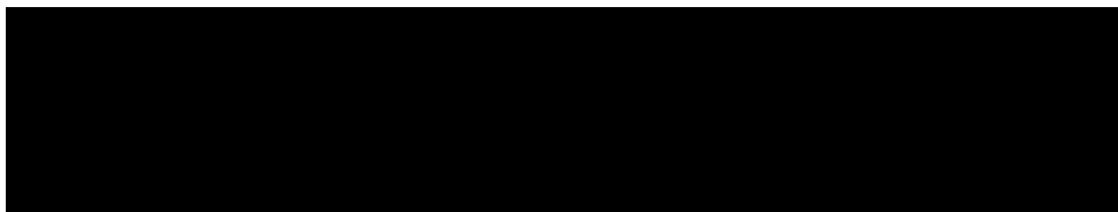
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BORDER REGION. {SECRET}4

2.//CHINA: WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S RECENTLY CON-  
 CLUDED STATE VISIT TO CHINA, WHICH HE HAS DECLARED  
 A "SUCCESS," WAS CAREFULLY STAGE-MANAGED BY THE CHI-  
 NESE. SCHMIDT POSTPONED HIS SCHEDULED VISIT EARLY  
 THIS YEAR AFTER THE CHINESE GAVE A HIGH LEVEL RE-  
 CEPTION TO SCHMIDT'S ARCH CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL  
 RIVAL FRANZ-JOSEF STRAUSS. THE POSTPONEMENT CLEARLY  
 DISMAYED THE CHINESE WHO BEGAN WORKING IMMEDIATELY  
 TO IMPROVE SINO-GERMAN RELATIONS AND TO SMOOTH THE  
 WAY FOR THE RESCHEDULED STATE VISIT. DURING THE  
 SPRING, SUMMER, AND EARLY FALL, THE CHINESE://4



//--EXPEDITED PREPARATIONS IN PEKING FOR A  
 GERMAN TECHNICAL EXHIBITION, THE LARGEST  
 AND BEST ATTENDED FOREIGN EXHIBITION EVER

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HELD IN CHINA: 7/4

//--COMPLETED NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SINO-GERMAN  
AVIATION AND MARITIME AGREEMENT AND FOR  
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT ECONOMIC  
COMMISSION SO THAT FORMAL SIGNING CERE-  
MONIES COULD TAKE PLACE DURING SCHMIDT'S  
VISIT;//4

//--GAVE FRANZ-JOSEF STRAUSS MORE ROUTINE  
 TREATMENT DURING HIS SECOND VISIT TO  
 PEKING IN SEPTEMBER; //Y

//--SHOWED KEEN INTEREST IN EXPANDING  
GERMAN IMPORTS WHILE TALKING OF MODI-  
FYING CHINA'S RAW MATERIAL EXPORT  
POLICY TO ALLOW SALES OF SOME COAL  
AND OIL TO WEST GERMANY.//4

//DURING HIS FIVE-DAY STAY IN CHINA, SCHMIDT  
HAD CEREMONIAL MEETINGS WITH MAO AND WITH NATIONAL  
PEOPLE'S CONGRESS CHAIRMAN CHU TEH AND WAS ACCORDED

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THE HONOR OF BEING THE FIRST WESTERN GOVERNMENT HEAD TO VISIT SIN'LIANG PROVINCE ON THE SINO--SOVIET BORDER. THE CHANCELLOR HAD INDICATED APPREHENSION THAT PUBLIC DIFFERENCES OVER EAST-WEST DETENTE MIGHT MAR HIS VISIT AND GIVE POLITICAL AMMUNITION TO HIS CRITICS AT HOME--A CONCERN THAT WAS UNDOUBTEDLY HEIGHTENED IN THE WAKE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT. BUT HE CAME AWAY OPENLY PLEASED WITH CHINESE AWARENESS OF HIS SENSITIVITIES IN THIS REGARD.//Y

//VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO ANTI-SOVIET, ANTI-DETENTE THEMES IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH BUT MADE NO DIRECT ATTACKS ON GERMAN OSTPOLITIK. TENG APPARENTLY TOOK THE SAME TACK IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE WEST GERMANS AND HIS FAREWELL SPEECH WAS MOST NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS RINGING ENDORSEMENT OF EUROPEAN UNITY RATHER THAN ANY ANTI-SUPERPOWER VITRIOL. THE ABSENCE OF A COMMUNIQUE ON SCHMIDT'S DEPARTURE WAS SOMEWHAT PUZZL-

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ING: A FORMAL JOINT STATEMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED ON THE INITIAL VISIT BY THE HEAD OF SUCH AN IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT. SOME FRICTION OVER WORDING MAY HAVE ARISEN DURING PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND MUTUAL AGREEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN REACHED TO DISPENSE WITH A COMMUNIQUE RATHER THAN RISK A SECOND POSTPONEMENT OF THE VISIT--A DEVELOPMENT BOTH PEKING AND BONN UNDOUBTEDLY WANTED TO AVOID. IN ANY EVENT, BOTH SIDES POINTED TO THE SIGNING OF THE MARITIME AND AVIATION AGREEMENTS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOINT COMMISSION AS EVIDENCE OF THE VISIT'S SUCCESS AND OF WARMING BILATERAL RELATIONS.//Y

//THE CHINESE MAY SOON REALIZE SOME WELCOME RETURNS FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY. ON THE SAME DAY THAT SCHMIDT ARRIVED IN CHINA, BONN ANNOUNCED THAT IT FAVORED PEKING IN ITS DISPUTE WITH TAIPEI OVER OWNERSHIP OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTY IN WEST BERLIN. THE MOVE ADDS SUBSTANCE TO RUMORS THAT BONN WOULD

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TO: IMMEDIATE AMMAN ROUTINE MEA BRIEF 176-754

1. SPANISH SAHARA: SPANISH, MOROCCAN, AND MAURITANIAN OFFICIALS IN TWO DAYS OF TALKS AT MADRID HAVE MADE LITTLE PROGRESS TOWARD AN AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF SPANISH SAHARA.4

ALGERIAN OPPOSITION TO A PARTITION OF THE TERRITORY BETWEEN MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN RETARDING AN ACCORD. PRESS REPORTS FROM MADRID, CITING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, SAY ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE SENT A MESSAGE TO SPANISH PRIME MINISTER ARIAS WEDNESDAY. BOUMEDIENE WAS PRESUMABLY WARNING ARIAS AGAINST AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD TURN THE TERRITORY OVER TO RABAT AND NOUAKCHOTT.4

ALGIERS WANTS THE PEOPLE OF SPANISH SAHARA TO MAKE THEIR OWN CHOICE IN A REFERENDUM SUPERVISED BY THE UN. ALTHOUGH EAGER TO GET OUT OF THE TERRITORY, MADRID STILL WANTS THE UN TO PLAY A ROLE, POSSIBLY BY ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY TRUSTEESHIP AND OVERSEEING A REFERENDUM. THE MOROCCANS HAVE BEEN UNWILLING TO ACCEPT SPANISH ASSURANCES THAT A TRUSTEESHIP ARRANGEMENT AND A REFERENDUM COULD BE RIGGED TO RESULT IN A TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY TO MOROCCO AND

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ALTHOUGH THE PRINCIPAL COMBATANTS ARE STILL TRYING TO AVOID THE RETURN OF HEAVY FIGHTING. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY HALTED ALMOST COMPLETELY THURSDAY, AFTER GRADUALLY INCREASING SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE WENT INTO EFFECT ON NOVEMBER 24.

LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN POLITICIANS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO END THE CRISIS BY NEGOTIATIONS. THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERING POLITICAL REFORM HAS BEEN MEETING REGULARLY, HOWEVER, AND REPORTEDLY IS NEAR AGREEMENT ON ABOLISHING THE PRACTICE OF HIRING GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ON THE BASIS OF THEIR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION. LEBANESE LEFTISTS HAVE LONG SOUGHT TO END THE SYSTEM OF CONFESSIONAL BALANCE ON WHICH THE COUNTRY'S GOVERNING SYSTEM IS BASED, AS HAVE THE CONSERVATIVE MUSLIMS WHO SEEK A LARGER PROPORTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS. CHRISTIANS ON THE COMMITTEE PRESUMABLY FEEL THAT THEY CAN AFFORD TO MAKE THIS CONCESSION—WHICH MANY REGARD AS INEVITABLE—BECAUSE THEIR FOLLOWERS ARE GENERALLY BETTER EDUCATED AND BETTER ABLE TO COMPETE UNDER A FUTURE MERIT SYSTEM.

PRIME MINISTER KARAMI'S SECURITY COMMITTEE HAS ALSO BEEN MEETING, PRIMARILY TO SEEK WAYS TO STOP POLITICALLY MOTIVATED KIDNAPINGS.

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SEVERAL HUNDRED PERSONS HAVE BEEN SEIZED AND RELEASED THIS WEEK AS PART OF THE BARGAINING BETWEEN THE SEVERAL FACTIONS.

THE CABINET REMAINS DEADLOCKED BY THE SPLIT BETWEEN ITS CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM MEMBERS. AT THE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, PRESIDENT FRANJIYAH MADE ONLY A GENERAL PLEA FOR CALM; KARAMI DECLINED TO SPELL OUT THE DETAILS OF THE POLITICAL COMPROMISE HE PROPOSED LAST WEEKEND.

//OUTSIDERS ARE INTENSIFYING THEIR EFFORTS TO MEDIATE. AN ENVOY FROM THE VATICAN WILL COMPLETE A FACT-FINDING TOUR THIS WEEKEND, BUT IS NOT EXPECTED TO MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. FRENCH EMISSARY COUVE DE MURVILLE PROBABLY WILL GO TO BEIRUT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, ALSO TO GATHER INFORMATION. HE STANDS A BETTER CHANCE OF PROVIDING EFFECTIVE MEDIATION.

//THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO ACCEPT PARIS' OFFER TO MEDIATE RESULTED FROM THE STRONG URGINGS OF LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER TAQLA, A GREEK CATHOLIC, AND FROM A GENERAL CONVICTION THAT THE EFFORT COULD DO NO HARM. KARAMI, A MUSLIM, HAS IN THE PAST RESISTED BRINGING IN THE FRENCH OUT OF A CONVICTION THAT THEY WOULD SYMPATHIZE WITH

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